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Kentucky Ag News Headlines

National Ag Day Focuses on Convergence of Food and Fuel

Kentucky Ag Connection - 03/15/2007

Representing more than 22 million people who work in the nation's agriculture industry, hundreds of Americans will convene in Washington, D.C. on March 15 to celebrate National Agriculture Day 2007. Secretary Mike Johanns, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Chairman Collin Peterson, of the House Committee on Agriculture, will join farmers, Congressional leaders, representatives of corporations such as Archer Daniels Midland Company and John Deere, and others to raise awareness of the essential, dynamic role of agriculture in the world economy.

This year's Agriculture Day theme -- "Convergence of Food and Fuel" - is designed to highlight the scope of American agriculture, an industry that puts food on our tables and fuel in our cars.

To kick off Ag Day, Secretary Johanns and Rep. Peterson will speak at a luncheon at the National Press Club about how American agriculture is rising to the challenge of producing both food and renewable fuels. Improving technology on the farm and along the processing chain is helping meet the growing demand for crops used to produce renewable biofuels, animal feeds, foods and food ingredients. Orion Samuelson, one of the nation's most distinguished farm broadcasters, will serve as master of ceremonies.

The day will also feature an FFA rally at the USDA's Whitten Building, attracting high school students and dignitaries from across the country. Secretary Johanns will again be on hand to address the crowd, about the future of renewable energy and agriculture in America. Also scheduled to attend are Beau Williamson, National FFA President; Greg Webb, Vice President-ADM Public Affairs and 2007 National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board; and Bob Dinneen, President, Renewable Fuels Association.

National Ag Day kicks off National Agriculture Week (March 18-24, 2007), and aims to raise awareness among Americans of the importance of U.S. agriculture in the stability of our economy, and in providing food and fuel to the world.



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